

The Gant County Fiscal Court met in Special Session on Thursday, May 05, 2005, at 3:00 P.M. at the Grant County Courthouse in Williamstown, Kentucky 41097, with Richard Austin, Magistrate 1<sup>st</sup> District, Present; Patricia Conrad, Magistrate 2<sup>nd</sup> District, Present; Kenny Messer, Magistrate 3<sup>rd</sup> District, Absent, and Hon. Darrell Link, County Judge/Executive, Present and Presiding.

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Judge Link opened in prayer and then led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Those present were: Jailer Steve Kellam, Assistant Jailer Greg Wells, County Treasurer Layne Wagoner and Sarah Adams-Grant County News.

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Judge Link explained that the reason for this meeting was to discuss the Transfers that had been presented for approval at the last meeting from the General Fund Capital Outlay-Capital Projects in the amount of \$246,144.00 to the Jail Fund for the same amount. Jailer Steve Kellam and County Treasurer Layne Wagoner were present to discuss and explain why these transfers were needed. Judge Link updated that the main reason was that there was an overrun of expenditures in the Payroll line item and that more has been spent than we budgeted. An Overtime Report was presented and reviewed and discussed for the period of July 01, 2004 thru April 29, 2005, totaling \$45,549.00. Magistrate Patricia Conrad expressed her dislike of surprises and stated that is exactly what she got on Monday when she received the Claims and Transfers for review. She stated that she would have liked to have known about this large transfer first. She updated on the total hours and overtime salary for two office employees and questioned the need to pay them overtime. She does not believe they should be paid overtime. Discussion was held. Judge Link stated that this should be looked at and re-assessed and

perhaps hire an additional part time person to offset these costs. Greg Wells informed the Court that this has already been addressed and explained the changes that had been made to correct this problem. Judge Link updated on the line item budget for Salaries and explained how this should work. So much is budgeted for Salaries and there are 26 pay periods which equal so many dollars per pay period, and that is what salaries should be kept at as close as possible. Mr. Kellam said there are now 57 employees there now and they tried to budget for about that many. He said they have tried to scale back and distribute more jobs to each one, but things do get out of hand. Magistrate Conrad suggested a better handle as we go along thru the year and that we know how funds are running. She does not like to have to transfer from other lines items to put funds into the Jail Fund. She asked how much it takes to hire a new employee with uniforms, training etc. to get them ready to do the job and Mr. Kellam updated on this. He said you have to pay them about a month's salary; there are uniforms, and costs for training thru the Department of Corrections which he requires about 32 hours. Magistrate Conrad suggested that it was cheaper to keep the ones that are already trained rather than having to hire new ones. Mr. Kellam updated on this and the fact that you get them trained and then they leave and go to other Police Agencies in order to make more money and said you can't really blame them. He said that we get about 1,800 hours per year out of an employee and that we loose a lot to other police departments. He said that if he can get two years out of them he is lucky. He explained that Boone County just opened a new Jail and is soliciting employees. He also explained that we are owed by others around \$442,568.00 on contracts from Pendleton County, the State and the U.S. Marshall's Office and Ohio feds for housing inmates as of May 01<sup>st</sup>. This is money that

should come in but can not be used to put back into the General Fund. It is already budgeted for the Jail Fund. Someone asked if we had received the \$300,000.00 that had been anticipated, and it was reported that we had received these funds but that they were already factored into the budget. Mr. Kellam stated that in the proposed budget last year they had planned for 47 full time employees and 20 part time employees, but stated that you can't get part time now. Everyone wants full time work with benefits. It was reported that next fiscal year the Personnel can not exceed the amount budgeted for the year. When you pay out more in Salaries, then the Social Security, Retirement and Unemployment insurance also goes up. Discussion was held on creating a line item for Overtime only, and the County Treasurer stated that this had not been included in the proposed budget this year, and since the budget has been approved and mailed to Frankfort for their review and approval, an Amendment would have to be done and presented to them again for approval. He explained that the Nurse's Salary was taken out of the budget and it will be paid for thru the contract with Southern Health and will offset the Salaries. He said that all medical claims should be paid by them and will not go thru the budget. Mr. Kellam said that he had cut a very trim budget last fiscal year. You hate to have to do it, but sometimes it happens. Discussion was held on transferring within the budgeted line items in the Jail rather than taking it from the General Fund. Layne explained that this could be done but it would not really help as you would eventually have to transfer back to those line items to meet and pay the claims for the balance of the fiscal year. He reviewed a ledger he had in his hand and updated on some line items that had balances and some that were already zeroed out. Judge Link explained that Finance Officer Connie McClure keeps a ledger on the Jail Fund that is up to date and shows the

balances each time Payroll or Claims are paid and that the Jailer can call or stop in and review this Ledger at any time. More general discussion was held on the Jail revenues and receipts and payments of claims and salaries and trying to get the revenues increased for housing to help offset some of the claims. If we could get our revenues up on contracts for housing it would certainly offset a lot of these expenses. After said discussion Judge Link asked if the Court was ready to take action on the Transfers. Magistrate Conrad reiterated that she would appreciate knowing a day ahead of a Fiscal Court meeting if this should happen in the future so she would not be surprised the day she gets the claims to review them for approval that night.

Motion of Patricia Conrad and seconded by Richard Austin it is hereby ordered to approve the transfer from the General Expense Fund Capital Outlay-Cap. Projects 01-8099-741 for \$246,144.00 to the Jail Fund line items listed on the last page as presented on Monday, May 02, 2005.

The following votes were taken: Richard Austin, Magistrate 1<sup>st</sup> District, votes Yes; Patricia Conrad, Magistrate 2<sup>nd</sup> District, votes Yes; Kenny Messer, Magistrate 3<sup>rd</sup> District, Absent; and Hon. Darrell L. Link, County Judge/Executive, votes Yes.

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Motion of Richard Austin and seconded by Patricia Conrad it is hereby ordered to

Adjourn until Monday, May 16, 2005, at 7:00 P.M.

The following votes were taken: Richard Austin, Magistrate 1<sup>st</sup> District, votes Yes; Patricia Conrad, Magistrate 2<sup>nd</sup> District, votes Yes; Kenny Messer, Magistrate 3<sup>rd</sup> District, Absent; and Hon. Darrell Link, County Judge/Executive, votes Yes.

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GRANT COUNTY JUDGE/EXECUTIVE